

SENATE GENERAL WELFARE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT 1

Amendment No. 1 to SB3443

**Herron
Signature of Sponsor**

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 3443

House Bill No. 3203*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 57, Part 1, is amended by inserting the following language as a new, appropriately designated section thereto:

Section 68-57-105. For the purposes of this chapter, “surgical technologist” means one who works under supervision to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of invasive surgical procedures. This individual is usually employed by a hospital, medical office, or surgical center and supervised during the surgical procedure according to institutional policy and procedure to assist in providing a safe operating room environment that maximizes patient safety by performing other similar tasks including, but not limited to:

(1) Preparation of the operating room and the sterile field for surgical procedures by preparing sterile supplies, instruments, and equipment using sterile technique;

(2) Preparation of the operating room for surgical procedures by ensuring that surgical equipment is functioning properly and safely; and

(3) Passing instruments, equipment or supplies to a surgeon, sponging or suctioning an operative site, preparing and cutting suture material, holding retractors, transferring fluids or drugs, assisting in counting sponges, needles, supplies, and instruments, and performing other tasks as directing during a surgical procedure.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 57, Part 1, is amended by inserting the following language as a new, appropriately designated section thereto:

Section 68-57-106. Nothing in this chapter shall apply to persons who are licensed under any chapter of title 63.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-57-101, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 68-57-101.

(a) Individuals employed as surgical technologists must:

(1) Have completed a program for surgical technology accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP);

(2) Have completed an appropriate training program for surgical technologists in the armed forces or at a CAAHEP accredited hospital or CAAHEP accredited ambulatory surgical treatment center program. For the purposes of this chapter, "armed forces" means the army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, or public health service of the United States;

(3) Hold current national certification established by the Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist (LCC-ST), or its successor organizations; or

(4) Successfully complete the surgical technologists LCC-ST certifying exam.

(b) Any student who completes a surgical technology program that is in the process of becoming CAAHEP accredited on July 1, 2006, shall be considered a graduate of a CAAHEP accredited program.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-57-102, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) In addition to individuals identified in 68-57-101, a person may be employed upon providing sufficient evidence that, prior to the effective date of this act, the person was at any time employed as a surgical technologist for not less than eighteen (18) months in the five (5) years preceding the effective date

of this section in a hospital, medical office, surgery center, or school of surgical technology. An individual who has begun training to be a surgical technologist prior to the effective date of this section shall be eligible for employment as a surgical technologist provided that such training is completed within three (3) years of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.